BLM LIBRARY
88077799

Bishop Petroglyph Loop

#1570097623 ID: 88077799

DIRECTIONS

Those visitors leaving from Bishop should plan to allow at least 3 hours to complete the Bishop Petroglyph Loop. Fish Slough and Chidago Canyon Roads are well-maintained county dirt roads. They tend to be washboarded but are passable by most passenger vehicles during good weather. Please maintain safe speeds and avoid parking in the soft soils on the side of the road.

Begin at the north end of Bishop at the intersection of Hwy. 395 and Hwy. 6.

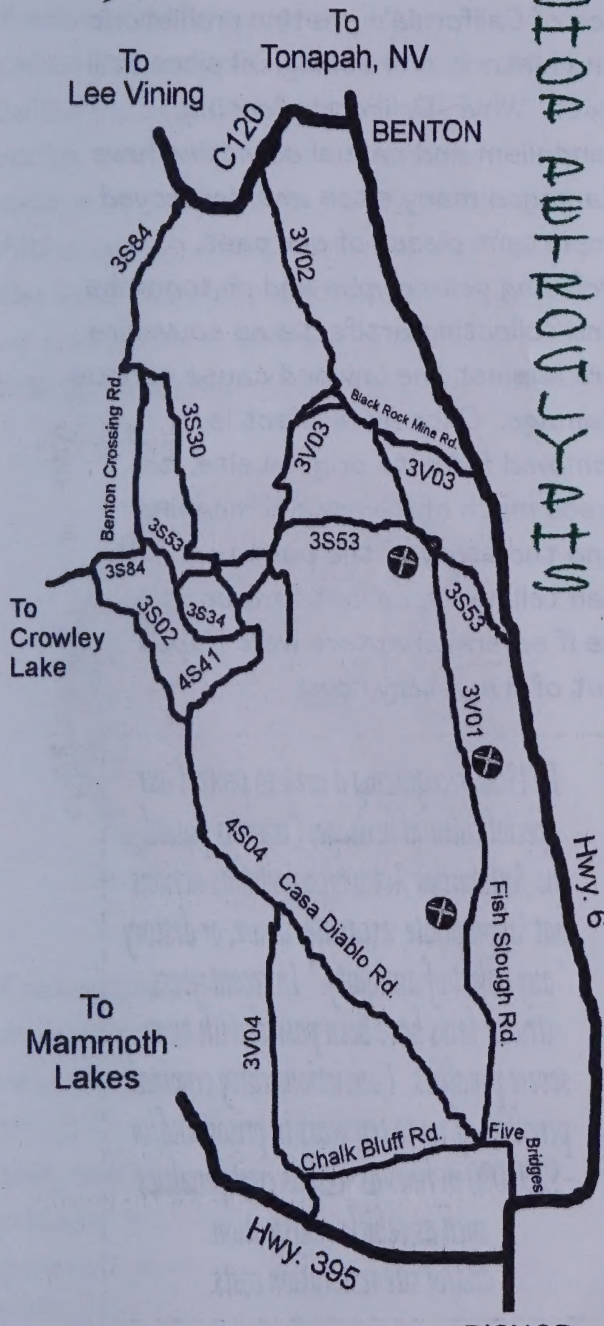
- 0.0 Take U.S. Hwy. 6 towards Tonopah, Nevada.
- 1.4 Turn left on Five Bridges Road and proceed past the gravel pit.
- 3.9 Turn right (north) on Fish Slough Road (Rd. 3V01).
- 10.7 FISH SLOUGH PETROGLYPHS, located on the left down a very short spur road with parking at the end.
- 15.0 Continue north to the CHIDAGO PETROGLYPHS which will be found on the right side of the road inside of a chain link fence.
- 20.7 Continue north to the RED ROCK PETROGLYPHS, which are on the left side of Fish Slough Road at a large outcrop of Bishop Tuff.

With your back to the Red Rock Petroglyphs, take the 1/10 mile cutoff toward the White Mountains to connect with Chidago Canyon Rd. Turn right on Chidago Canyon and travel east toward Highway 6. Turn right on Highway 6 and travel south back to Bishop. For more information about Native American culture, visit the Paiute-Shoshone Indian Cultural Center and Museum on West Line Street near Bishop.

GN799.P4 B57

Please do not travel off-road. Thank you.

BISHOP PETROGLYPHS



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ROCK ART

Ancient Native peoples carved designs called petroglyphs and painted designs called pictographs into the faces of rocks, cliffs and cave walls in the valleys of California's Eastern Sierra. Although we often do not understand the ideas and stories they represent, we can all enjoy and appreciate their beauty and enigmatic character.

Rock art is fragile and irreplaceable and often carries significant spiritual value for Native Americans. Please treat these works of art with respect and reverence so that they may be passed on from generation to generation as they have been for the past five thousand years or longer.

PRESERVATION

Few of California's pristine prehistoric and historic archaeological sites still exist. Why? Deliberate looting, vandalism and casual collecting have damaged many sites and destroyed important pieces of our past. Defacing petroglyphs and pictographs and collecting artifacts as souvenirs are against the law and cause serious damage. Once an artifact is removed from its original site, it loses much of its special meaning and the story of the past that it can tell has been lost forever. It's as if several chapters were ripped out of a mystery novel.

In 1906, recognizing a need to protect our special cultural heritage, Congress passed the Antiquities Act which prohibits actions that "appropriate, excavate, injure, or destory any object of antiquity." In recent years, stricter laws have been passed with more severe penalties. Convictions carry criminal penalties of up to ten years in prison and/or $200,000 in fines as well as civil penalties such as vehicle confiscation and/or site restoration costs.

PLEASE HELP US PRESERVE OUR HERITAGE.

Take only pictures, drawings and your memories, leaving the pieces of the past for everyone to experience and enjoy.

Report looting and vandalism. Notify a nearby Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, or National Park office. The Bishop BLM can be reached at (760) 872-4881. For dispatch, call (760) 873-2405.

Leave all artifacts undisturbed and in place. Encourage others to do the same.

Do not climb on or touch petroglyphs or pictographs. Hand oils and climbers increase erosive processes and decrease the life of these fragile, irreplaceable stories of the past.

The Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the conservation, management & development of 60 percent of all federally owned lands. These lands are managed for timber, minerals, livestock grazing, wildlife, watershed, wilderness & outdoor recreation. Cultural preservation & protection of endangered species is an important part of its mandate. For more information on the Bishop Petroglyphs & other BLM lands, please contact:

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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